DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SECURITY

BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE

WORCESTERSHIRE

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1967

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL HOUSE,
STOURBRIDGE

B O R O U G H O F S T O U R B R I D G E

REPORT

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BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE

Mayor

Alderman C.J. Aston J.P.

Deputy Mayor

Alderman J.S.P. Poyner

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Councillor K.R. Ison

Deputy Chairman

Councillor A.J. Taylor

Alderman W.P. Drew C.C.
Alderman E.W.L. Tye C.C.
Councillor W. Bowen
Councillor K.D. Connop
Councillor W. Evans
Councillor W.T. Hollis
Councillor J.L. Keightley
Councillor W.E. Knowles
Councillor Mrs. O. Simpson

Medical Officer of Health

J. Twomey, M.B.,B.Ch.,B.A.O.,D.P.H.,D.T.S.&. H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

Dr. Cynthia J. Bladon, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.

(appointed 1st February, 1967)
(resigned 6th April, 1967)

Chief Public Health Inspector, also Inspector under Petroleum and Shops Acts

** T.H. Meredith M.A.P.H.I., Cert. of S.I.B.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

*J.W. Billingham, M.A.P.H.I., Cert of S.I.B.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

*G.H. Stone, M.A.P.H.I., Cert of S.I.B.
*G.S. Perks, Cert of P.H.I.E.B..
*W.J. Hemmings, M.A.P.H.I., Cert of S.I.B.
R.L. Noons, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Dip. P.H.I.E.B.

Pupil Public Health Inspector

K.W. Rock

Clerical Staff

Mrs. P. Pearson (resigned 27th November, 1967)
Miss J.L. Ellett
Miss E.R. Foxall (appointed 24th July, 1967)
Mrs. Y.J. Marshall (appointed 27th December, 1967)

Rodent Officer

G.H. Corbett

*****

** Smoke Inspectors Certificate
* Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for 1967

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Stourbridge

Vital Statistics

Once again there has been an increase in the population which was estimated at 51,300 at mid-year, 1550 more than at the corresponding time of the previous year. This indicates a continuing growth of the borough as a thriving and expanding unit.

We have had another year free of any maternal deaths in child-birth and everyone connected with the maternity services is to be heartily congratulated on this.

The Infant Mortality Rate (the number of deaths of children under one year of age per 1,000 live births) is recognised as an index of living standards and hygiene. The figure for Stourbridge in 1967 is 17 which compares favourably with the national rate of 18.3. It is of interest that the Medical Officer of Health of Lye and Wollescote recorded an Infant Mortality Rate of 170 in the year 1897, and there has been a continuous improvement since that time. We have now reached a point at which a high percentage of the remaining infant deaths are due to such factors as congenital abnormalities and are unavoidable in our present state of knowledge. In the country as a whole more infants die in the first seven days of life than in the next seven years. If stillbirths are added to first week deaths the number of deaths equals that in the next thirty-five years.

Causes of Mortality

The general trends are no different from those of recent years. Fifty-two per cent of deaths are attributed to diseases of the heart and blood vessels. Most of these occur in the older age groups but there are a few from about the age of thirty onwards. The risk is greater for men than for women and is increased by overweight, inactivity and cigarette smoking.

The number of deaths caused by lung cancer in 1967 was 32 - an all-time high as shown on Table VIII. At the time of writing the price of tobacco has dropped and it will indeed be tragic if people are encouraged by this to play Russian roulette with their lives by taking up or persisting in the cigarette habit which is known to increase the risk of lung cancer as well as of heart disease and bronchitis.

Pipe-smoking is very much safer than cigarettes and the available evidence suggests that the smoking of cigars is not dangerous to health at all.

Personal habits are all-important in the prevention of the respiratory diseases but the community plays a part by limiting cigarette advertising and also by implementing the Clean Air Act, 1956. It is heartening that two Orders under this Act came into operation in the Borough in 1967 and a further two were declared.

Typhoid Fever and other Gastro-intestinal Infections

A four year old girl who had come from abroad to live in Stourbridge in August, 1967, was taken ill after arrival here and later diagnosed as a case of typhoid fever which had been contracted in her country of origin. She made a good recovery and there was no spread of the disease to other persons.

Typhoid Fever and other Gastro-intestinal Infections cont .....

Typhoid fever is passed on by the contamination of food or water by the excreta of a person suffering from the disease or of a symptomless carrier. Such contamination can only take place if there is an error of hygiene. This may take the form of a personal lapse,(e.g. failing to wash the hands properly after visiting the toilet) or of a fault in the environment (e.g. a leakage of sewage into the drinking water as in the case of the outbreak in Zermatt, Switzerland in 1963).

Typhoid fever is fortunately rare in this country though sporadic cases occur; very often as in the case of the four year old child, people who have been infected abroad and who are, unknown to themselves, incubating the disease on arrival in Britain. There are, however, much more common diseases which are spread in exactly the same way as typhoid fever i.e. faecal contamination of food by cases or carriers. Such conditions include dysentery and different kinds of food poisoning which are of quite frequent occurrence.

Advice on hygiene is constantly being given to the public by doctors, health visitors, public health inspectors and everyone concerned with health education. I shall not attempt to cover the subject in this report, but would like to make a few remarks.

Firstly, there is a widely-held idea, encouraged by advertising, that hygiene consists largely of the lavish use of chemical disinfectants in the home, particularly in lavatories. This is completely false. Gastro-intestinal infections are prevented, not by slopping disinfectants around, but by careful and unhurried hand-washing.

Secondly, more could be done in the way of design. It is saddening to find even today that houses are being built with lavatories which have no washing facilities. The expense of installing a wash-hand basin in every new lavatory, whether public or private, would be well worth while.

Furthermore, there is no good reason why lavatories should not be flushed and the water supply of wash-hand basins operated by foot pedals, thus removing the possibility of contaminating chains and taps by the hands before washing. This is already done in passenger liners and in some continental countries.

Gastro-intestinal infections are often serious and may be fatal, particularly in the case of the very young and the very old. Some of them are becoming more difficult to treat as the germs acquire resistance to antibiotic drugs. The need for prevention is therefore urgent and the key lies, whether or not mention of the subject embarrasses some of us and offends our susceptibilities, in scrupulous attention to personal hygiene.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

Dr. C.J. Bladon was appointed Deputy Medical Officer of Health on 1st February 1967. She tendered her resignation on 6th April, 1967. The post was later re-advertised but no further appointment was made.

Order Under Section 47, National Assistance Act 1948

A Magistrate's Order under the above Act was made on 15th March, 1967, in respect of an elderly man who lived alone and was unable to devote to himself proper care and attention. He was admitted to Hayley Green Hospital and later settled down happily there so that renewal of the Order was not necessary.

Consultation with Pharmacists

At the suggestion of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain F.H. Haden, Esq., M.P.S., 47 Queensway, Wollescote, has been appointed as a consultant on pharmaceutical matters to the Council free of charge. I have found this attachment useful and have consulted Mr. Haden on a number of occasions.

Health Risks in connection with Animal Pets

A statement on this subject which I submitted in my January monthly report was published in the Medical Officer of 24th March, 1967, and a leaflet for national distribution drawing attention to the points made was prepared by the Central Council of Health Education later in the year. This leaflet is entitled "Is Dog Mans Best Friend?"

Acknowledgments

I would like to express my appreciation for the support and co-operation which I have received from the Mayor, the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee, Mr. Drury, Mr. Meredith, the other Chief Officers of the Council, and the staff of the Public Health Department. I am also deeply indebted to Dr. C. Starkie, Medical Officer of Health, Kidderminster, Dr. R.W. Markham, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Kidderminster, and Dr. C.H. Phillips, Medical Officer of Health, Bromsgrove, for having made themselves available to deal with emergencies during my occasional absences from the district.

J. Twomey,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions

The town is partly residential and partly industrial, and the chief industries are galvanised hollow-ware and iron-founding, engineering, manufacture of forgings, spades and shovels, chains, fireclay and electrical products, wire goods, kitchen-ware, skin rugs and gloves, scholastic equipment. With the incorporation of Amblecote in the Borough the term 'Stourbridge glass' becomes a truer description of the beautiful and renowned glassware produced in the Amblecote factories.

The Area of the Borough is	4,631	Acres
Viz: Stourbridge	1,920	"
Lye and Wollescote	1,025	"
Pedmore	1,269	"
Amblecote	417	"
Number of domestic properties at 1st April, 1967 ...	17,522	
Rateable value at 1st April, 1967	£2,058,975	
Sum represented by a penny rate 1967/68	£8,355.	

General Statistics for the Year

Population, estimated mid-year 1967	51,300
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ...	17.6
Adjusted Birth Rate " " " ...	16.72
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 " " ...	10.3
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 " " ...	11.27
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births ...	17.0

Vital Statistics - Mothers and Infants

Live Births	903
Rate per 1,000 population	17.6
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	4.8
Stillbirths	15
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	16.3
Total live and still births	918
Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)	15

Infant Mortality Rate

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ...	17.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	15.13
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	45.4
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)	11.0
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	8.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	25.0
Figures for England and Wales	
Infant Mortality (Provisional)	18.3
Neo-natal Mortality	12.5
Perinatal Mortality	25.4
Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)	NIL

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	8	5	13
Illegitimate	-	2	2
	8	7	15

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of Age

Legitimate	5	4	9
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	5	5	10

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of Age

Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	-	1	1
	3	5	8

POPULATION - STOURBRIDGE

Table I

	Birth Rate	Population	Population increase over previous year
1967	17.6	51,300	1,550
1966	17.1	49,750*	3,190
1965	17.3	46,560	650
1964	17.0	45,910	1,050
1963	16.8	44,860	850
1962	17.8	44,010	1,150
1961	17.2	42,860	1,850
1960	16.3	41,010	750
1959	15.2	40,260	600
1958	14.2	39,660	530
1957	15.5	39,130	580

* This includes increase in population due to Local Government reorganisation, and inclusion of part of the Urban District of Amblecote within the Borough.

INFANT DEATHS - 1967

Table II

Primary Cause		No. of Cases
I.	Pneumonia	1
II.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2
III.	Congenital Malformations	4
IV.	Asphyxia (Accident)	1
V.	Other conditions	7

STILL-BIRTHS CAUSES OF DEATH

Table III

Causes		No. of Cases
I.	Rhesus Incompatibility	1
II.	Placental defects	2
III.	Maternal illness	4
IV.	Ante Partum Haemorrhage	1
V.	Asphyxia	1
VI.	Congenital Malformation	2
VII.	Macerated Foetus	2
VIII.	Cause Unknown	2

TABLE IV

DEATHS

Males	...	276
Females	...	251
		527

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	10.3
Adjusted Death Rate " " " "	...	11.27
Death Rate for England and Wales (provisional)	...	11.2

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS 1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	3	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
11. Malignant Neoplasm,Lung, Bronchus	M	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	13	9	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	4	4
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	3	-
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	3	8
	F	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	7	7	15
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16. Diabetis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	10	8	15
	F	47	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	13	30
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	67	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	9	15	23	15
	F	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	15

CAUSES OF DEATH cont ....

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS 1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	1	3
	F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	4
20. Other Heart Disease	M	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	16
	F	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	8	22
21. Other Circulatory Disease	M	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	9
	F	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	10
23. Pneumonia	M	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-
	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	9
24. Bronchitis	M	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	8	9	10
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
31. Congenital Malformations	M	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	M	14	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	3	3
	F	21	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1	12
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1
34. All other Accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	8	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6
35. Suicide	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	276	5	3	-	-	2	1	10	23	71	76	85
	F	251	5	2	-	-	1	4	4	8	31	59	137

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers

Particulars of the Public Health Officers, together with information as to their qualifications, are set out on page 2.

Laboratory Facilities

Examination of clinical material (sputum, swabs, &c) is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester. This applies also to consumer samples of milk, water and ice-cream. Producer samples of milk and water are examined bacteriologically by the County Laboratory, Worcester, in addition to all chemical samples of food, drugs and water.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

There are eight centres in the Borough as follows:- 40 New Road, Stourbridge; St. Michael's Church Hall, Westwood Ave, Norton; Assembly Rooms, Meriden Avenue, Wollaston; Community Centre, Wassell Road, Wollescote; Orchard Lane, Lye; Hagley Road Clinic, Hagley Road, Stourbridge; and Pedmore Lane Clinic, Pedmore Lane, Pedmore, Stourbridge; Methodist Rooms, High Street, Amblecote.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supplies

The water supply to the Stourbridge area is controlled by the North West Worcestershire Water Board by an Order which came into being on the 1st October, 1962, under the North West Worcestershire Water Boards' Order, 1962, No: 1561. The Board is composed of 13 members of the constituent authorities namely, the County Borough of Dudley, Boroughs of Bewdley, Kidderminster and Stourbridge. Urban District of Stourport and the Rural Districts of Kidderminster, Bromsgrove, Droitwich, Martley and Tenbury and the Worcestershire County Council.

It may be of interest to note that the supply arrangements in the Borough of Stourbridge were first provided by the Stourbridge Water Works Company which functioned from 1857 to 1909. The functions of the Company were taken over by Act of Parliament in 1909 by the Stourbridge and District Water Board which continued to operate from that date until its dissolution in 1962.

There are three Pumping Stations serving the Stourbridge area, two of which are situated in the Borough of Stourbridge and the third in the County Borough of Dudley. At each of the Pumping Stations there are two boreholes and these are tube-protected for part of their full depth and generally penetrate into the upper Bunter Sandstone. The supply from these Pumping Stations is pumped into the two well defined areas of supply, the high level and the low level. The high level area which includes the recent housing developments in the Pedmore and Wollescote District of the Borough, has a consumption of about .6 million gallons per day, and the supply to the area is derived normally from the Coal-bournbrook Pumping Station. There is standby plant available at Mill Meadow Station. Both of these Stations are situated in Amblecote and pump water to a balancing tank covering the area and sited at Wychbury Hill in the Rural District of Bromsgrove.

It is the low level area of supply that the major part of the Borough of Stourbridge is situated, and the consumption of this area is about two and a half million gallons per day. The major part of this supply is provided from the Tack Lane Pumping Station and augmentation is obtained from the Coalbournbrook Station with appropriate duplicate standby plants available at all the three Stations operated by the Board for this part of their limits of supply.

The Boards area of supply covers more than 230 square miles and serves a population of about 171,000.

The Board has now completed investigation of an additional source in the Norton area. Planning permission for this project has been obtained and exploratory work has been completed. Pumping tests and analysis of the new supply have proved highly satisfactory. Application has been made to the Severn River Authority for a licence to extract water from this new source and it will form an important addition to the Boards' available sources of water supply to the Stourbridge Area.

The scheme prepared by the Engineer and Principal Officer of the Board, Mr. J. Septimus Brown, C.Eng.,M.Inst.Mun.E.,M.Inst.W.E., which will include two boreholes of 24" dia. sunk to a depth of 800' below ground level, a new pumping station, a service reservoir of 3,000,000 gallons capacity and appropriate trunk mains which has been approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government and the work is proceeding.

The test pumping of one of the boreholes has been satisfactorily completed. The second borehole is expected to be completed early in 1968 and water from this source will be available in limited quantities for distribution in the Stourbridge and Kidderminster areas by mid-summer 1968.

The water supply in the Borough has been satisfactory in quantity and quality throughout the area and there has been no contamination.

No fluoride is added to the water supply. The natural fluoride content of the water is approximately 0.1 p.p.m.

There has been regular bacteriological and chemical examination of the water supply in the Borough both by the Water Undertaking and by the Borough Council. All samples have been satisfactory and a typical chemical analysis is given in the report. The water supplies in the Borough are not subject to plumbo solvent action.

Drainage and Sewerage

The sewers in Stourbridge are under control of the Upper Stour Main Drainage Authority, which came into being under the provisions of the Upper Stour Main Drainage Authority Order 1966.

SECTION D

Housing work is referred to in the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Details of the inspections carried out during the year will be found in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report.

TABLE V

STOURBRIDGE INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND INFANT MORTALITY FIGURES 1957-1967

DISEASE	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
Scarlet Fever	4	15	9	36	21	20	8	33	68	57	37
Whooping Cough	2	10	7	15	3	4	3	40	33	24	130
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) New Cases	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Measles	272	346	482	228	864	6	988	2	659	110	778
Meningococcal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Acute Encephalitis (post infectious)	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	9	-	7	9	14	-	9	17	30	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	11	10	10	7	9	8	13	14	15	20
Food Poisoning	-	3	2	1	1	2	5	18	-	6	4
Pneumonia	-	-	5	3	8	7	5	24	44	23	42
Tuberculosis (New Cases)	10	6	4	8	11	19	14	24	21	18	11
Infant Mortality Rate	17.0	18.8	9.8	25.5	14.6	22.8	16.2	22.4	39.0	12.2	14.8
Neonatal Mortality Rate	11.0	15.3	3.7	21.6	10.6	12.7	10.8	22.4	29.2		
Perinatal Mortality Rate	25.0	30.0	20.6	41.1	20.9	26.2	26.4	46.5	44.5		

TABLE VI

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

DISEASE	A G E S										Total No. of Cases	Cases admitted to Hospital
	under 1 year	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-64	65 and upwards		
Acute Encephalitis (post infectious)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	14	59	79	118	1	1	-	-	-	-	272	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	3	5	4	-	-	12	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Whooping Cough	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
TOTALS	15	60	80	120	2	4	5	4	-	-	290	-

TABLE VII

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1967

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 ...	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
35 ...	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45 ...	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	9	2	2	0	1	0	0	0

Summary of Cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of 1967

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
No. of Cases on Register, 1st January, 1967	66	41	3	9
No. of cases notified for the first time during the year under the Regulations	8	1	1	-
No. of cases first heard of otherwise than by primary notification	3	1	1	-
No. of cases removed from Register in a previous Quarter which have been restored to Register during the Quarter	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	77	43	5	9
No. of cases removed from Register during the year	10	1	-	1
No. of cases remaining on Register at the end of the year	67	42	5	8

TABLE VIII

DEATHS FROM CANCER OF LUNG AND BRONCHUS

Year	Male	Female	Total
1950	8	3	11
1951	9	1	10
1952	10	1	11
1953	9	3	12
1954	13	2	15
1955	17	3	20
1956	10	2	12
1957	15	2	17
1958	20	1	21
1959	14	3	17
1960	15	8	23
1961	21	3	24
1962	20	2	22
1963	15	5	20
1964	26	1	27
1965	20	2	22
1966	20	1	21
1967	29	3	32

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for

1967

To: The Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors
of the Borough of Stourbridge.

Mr. Mayor, Councillor Mrs. Simpson & Gentlemen,

The year 1967 was one of steady progress, with a balanced approach to the wide variety of routine matters, and a prompt positive approach to complaints and the unusual.

During the year a large area in Amblecote was dealt with by two Clearance Areas, and there were smaller areas and individual action throughout the remainder of the Borough. Two further improvement areas were declared, and a small mobile house improvement exhibition organised in conjunction with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

There was a further increase in the amount of meat inspected, but a slight reduction in the incidence of conditions warranting condemnation.

A number of prosecutions were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and Regulations, but in the main there was persuasion rather than prosecution. With the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966 coming into operation there was a more positive control of vans and mobile shops. It is to be hoped that the facilities required will be used and not merely provided.

Atmospheric pollution was actively pursued, with the hardy annual complaints such as enamelling furnaces and brick kilns attracting much attention, whilst the unspectacular control of the much greater problem, quantitatively, of domestic smoke steadily proceeded.

Much time was spent on individual problems of noise, which led to the conclusions that almost all complaints could be remedied by a policy of good neighbourliness, but that in a small hard core of cases costs become prohibitive and complete cure impossible, short of removal of the source.

I should like to express my appreciation of the support and co-operation I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Town Clerk and other Chief Officers. I should also like to thank the staff of the department for their help and willing support.

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

T.H. MEREDITH

Chief Public Health Inspector.

COMPLAINTS

739 complaints were received during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following data on inspections is given in accordance with Article 25(20) of the Public Health Officers' Regulations, 1959:-

Inspections of houses under Public Health Acts	..	101
Re-inspections " " " " "	..	171
Inspections of Houses under Housing Regulations	..	945
Re-inspections " " " "	..	89
Houses in multiple occupation (visits and re-visits)	..	31
Housing improvements	..	668
Drainage	..	451
Bakehouses	..	28
Food premises (retail)	..	340
Food preparation premises	..	36
Food vehicles	..	58
Factories	..	68
Clean Air Act - industrial	..	261
- domestic	..	1717
- measurement	..	224
Licensed premises and clubs	..	96
Mortuary	..	6
Miscellaneous	..	494
Slaughterhouses	..	1173
Petroleum	..	247
Rats and Mice	..	2160
Refuse tips	..	108
Sampling (food, drugs and water)	..	248
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	..	331
Shops re. unfit food	..	27
Scrap metal dealers	..	5
Tents, vans and sheds	..	107
Filthy and verminous premises	..	66
Notifiable diseases	..	56
Water supplies	..	16
Noise abatement	..	42
Swimming Baths	..	26
Meat Inspection - cattle and calves	..	3931
- pigs	..	9465
- sheep	..	21434

PRELIMINARY NOTICES

A total of 471 Preliminary Notices were served during the year. These took the form of letters giving particulars of defects and recommendations as to the repairs etc. necessary to remedy the defects.

	No. of Premises
General defects of houses	159
Factories Act	7
Food Hygiene Reg. contraventions	139
Miscellaneous	4
Clean Air Act - contraventions	24
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	102
Markets, Stalls and vehicles	36
	471

STATUTORY NOTICES 1967

The following Statutory Notices were served during the year:-

Public Health Act 1936	No. of Notices	No. of Premises Affected
Abatement of Nuisances (S.93)	10	10
Repair of water closets at reasonable cost (S.45)	1	1
Public Health Act 1961		
Persons undertaking Demolition (S.29)	22	47
Clearance of untidy sites (S.27)	1	1
Removal of Motor Vehicle (S.34)	1	1
Housing Act 1957		
Notices to Quit (S.22)	51	51
Time and Place (S.16)	42	42
Clean Air Act 1956		
Section 12	3	3

RENT ACT 1957

There were no applications in connection with certificates of disrepair.

HOUSING ACT 1957

1. Action in Respect of Individual Unfit Houses

		No. of Houses
(a) Houses in respect of which demolition orders were made		
Park Street, Lye	Nos. 30,31,32	3
High Street, Lye	114,115,116,117,121	5
Bagley Street, Stambermill	29,31,32	3
Cherry Street	7	1
Bridgnorth Road	153,155,157,159,163, 165,167,169	8
Cross Street	8,10	2
Box Hill	18,19,20,21,27,28	6
Gladstone Road, Wollaston	26	1
Theatre Road	4	1
Brook Road	8	1
*Collis Street	35,36	2
Jackson Street	2,3	2
Green Street	74,76,78	3
Attwood Street	68,69	2
Vicarage Road, Amblecote	8,9	2
Platts Crescent	49,50	2
Hickman Street	6,7,8,	3
	Total	47

* Closing Orders revoked.

Undertaking not to relet

443 Brettell Lane	1

(b) Houses in respect of which closing orders were made

30 Talbot Street	1
67 Enville Street	1
55 Vicarage Road	1
143 Hagley Road	1
45 Enville Street	1
9 Cherry Street	1
7 School Drive	1
88,89,92 High Street, Amblecote	3
	10

Housing Act 1957 cont ....

(c) Houses in respect of which closing orders on parts of houses were made:-

6 Enville Street	1

(d) Houses in respect of which notices under Section 9 were served:-

38,40 Cherry Street	2

2. Clearance Area Action

(a) The following Clearance Areas were declared by the Council.

King William Street 30-43. 66 Brettell Lane	16
Brettell Lane/King William Street 17-19,23,25-30, 33-40,42-45,49-55 Brettell Lane. 11-27 King William Street	47
High Street, Amblecote, 52-62a	12
Stourbridge Road, 65-79	8
Green Street, 36-44	5
Total	88

(b) Clearance Orders

High Street, Amblecote, 52-62a	12
Green Street, 36-44	5

(c) Compulsory Purchase Orders

Stourbridge Road, 65-79	8
Brettell Lane/King William Street (with added grey land), 17-66, 11-42a	63

(d) Clearance Orders confirmed

Pedmore Road 4-7	4
High Street, Amblecote, 52-62a	12
Green Street 36-44	5

(e) Compulsory Purchase Orders confirmed

Heath Lane, 17-27	6
Mamble Road/Field Terrace, 9-11, 23-59	21

3. Houses which became void

Clearance Orders	44
Demolition Orders	32
Closing Orders	5

4. Sections 30 and 60

Payments for Good Maintenance

Six applications were received under Section 30 for well maintained payments in respect of houses dealt with by individual action. Two payments were made, the remainder were refused.

Two payments were made on the direction of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in respect of houses in Clearance Areas.

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958

Housing Act 1964

Improvement Grants

(a) Discretionary Grants

3 grants totalling £600 were approved.
1 application was refused.

(b) Standard Grants

76 standard grants totalling £13,027. were approved.
2 applications were refused.

(c) Improvement Loans

2 loans totalling £680 were approved in respect of houses where improvement grants had been made.

(d) Compulsory Improvement Areas (Section 13)

Two areas were declared:-

(i) The Lye No. 1 Compulsory Improvement Area

Containing 93 houses, of which 51 lacked one or more of the amenities.

(ii) The Amblecote No. 4 Compulsory Improvement Area

Containing 102 houses of which 28 lacked one or more amenities.

Owners and other interested persons were interviewed, and the appropriate notices served or undertakings accepted. A disappointingly large number of tenants in the Lye No. 1 Area refused to give their consent to the improvements being carried out.

(e) Compulsory Improvement Outside Areas

Three tenants applied for the compulsory improvement of their houses.

(f) Exhibition

A mobile exhibition was organised in conjunction with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Private organisations also participated, and some interest was aroused. Unfortunately the degree of interest hardly justified the time and organisation involved, and I feel that the same effort spent on inspecting potential compulsory improvement areas or canvassing suitable areas for individual applications would be more worthwhile.

(g) Housing Act 1964 - Section 96

Water Supply

Grants totalling £96. 17. 6. for the provision of separate water supplies were made in respect of six houses which were being provided with standard amenities by means of improvement grants.

(h) Public Health Act 1936 - Section 47

A grant of £25. 6. -. was approved towards the conversion of a waste water closet.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

There are approximately 38 houses in multiple occupation in the borough, which require attention from time to time. None are overcrowded other than on odd occasions. Direction orders have been made and enforced wherever appropriate.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

Food premises by types

Bakehouses	6
Butchers' shops	47
Cafes, Canteens	84
Fried fish shops	15
General stores and Groceries	139
Other food premises	87
Licensed premises	109
Slaughterhouses	4

A total of 2,016 visits were made to food premises. All of the premises comply with regulations 16 and 19. No certificates of exemption have been issued.

It is difficult in words or on posters to bring home to food handlers the importance of personal hygiene. Compulsory health checks and regular specimen checks, whilst time consuming, are ways in which this matter could be positively emphasised.

Prosecutions

There was one prosecution under these Regulations in respect of a bread roundsman smoking. A fine of £10. was imposed.

Meat and Other Foods

12 cwts. 20 lbs. 11 ozs. of food other than meat inspected in slaughterhouses, was condemned, and disposed of under controlled conditions at the Council's tip.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

106 samples of various foods (including samples of raw milk, ice cream, butter, cream, artificial cream, meat) were submitted for examination. Thirteen samples proved unsatisfactory, as follows:-

Ice Cream	Failed Methylene Blue Test	11
Homogenised Pasteurised Milk	" " " "	1
Bacon and Chicken Croquettes -	coliform and faecal coliform organisms present in 1/100 gramme.	

In each case there was correspondence with the firms concerned, and subsequent samples were satisfactory.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION

322 samples were taken during the year of which 7 proved unsatisfactory.

Article	Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity	Observations
Sugared Jelly Babies	Informal	Colouring matter unsuitable	Discontinued
Savory Minced Steak	"	Low Meat Content of 84%	New Standards pending
Potted beef with butter	"	Low Meat Content of 69%	Quality checks tightened.
Stewed Steak	"	Low Meat Content of 91%	
Casserole Steak	"	Low Meat Content	
Breakfast Vitamins	"	Deficiency in Vitamin C content	Stocks withdrawn
Breakfast Vitamins	"	Deficiency in Vitamin C content	

A number of painted wooden toys of foreign origin were checked for suitability of the paint. All were satisfactory.

Co-operation on Pesticides Survey

Samples of plums and milk were examined for the presence of pesticides or antibiotics. Each was satisfactory.

FOOD COMPLAINTS

Among complaints investigated were:-

Foreign Bodies in Food

String, fly, cardboard, plaster in loaves; foil, dirt in milk bottles; insects in dried fruit, tinned fruit and cereals; felt pad in pikelet.

Unfit food

Mouldy puff pastry, beetroot, steak and kidney pie, apple pie; fish containing threadworm; unsound steak and kidney pie.

After exhaustive inquiries, reports were submitted to the Public Health Committee, and after taking into account all the circumstances proceedings were instituted as follows:-

Section 2	- felt pad in pikelet	-	fined £20. + £3.3.-. Costs.
	- fly in loaf	-	fined £20.
	- plaster in loaf	-	case pending at end of year.
	- insects in cereals	-	case pending at end of year.
Section 8	- Unfit steak and kidney pie	-	fined £7. + £4.4.-. Costs.

In the remaining cases, warnings were given.

The co-operation of the County Analyst, Worcester (Mr. W.E. Jones, M.Sc.,F.R.I.C.) and the Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, (Dr. R.J. Henderson M.D.,C.L.B.) is gratefully acknowledged.

MEAT INSPECTION

100% meat inspection was maintained at the three small and one large slaughterhouses in the borough, although this necessitated some overtime and weekend working by the public health inspectors. The large slaughterhouse caters for shops, canteens and restaurants over a wide area.

A number of shops in the borough obtain their meat from sources outside the borough. In these cases meat is checked for the inspection mark during visits under the food hygiene regulations.

No. of slaughterhouses in the borough			4
No. of licensed slaughtermen			18
No. of animals slaughtered			34839
No. of animals inspected (ante and post-mortem)			34830
Total weight of meat and offal condemned	9 tons	4 cwt.	66 lbs.
Total weight of meat treated for Cysticercus Bovis	2 tons	8 cwt.	64 lbs.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows and Calves	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	3,789	60	82	21,434	9,465	-
Number inspected	3,789	60	82	21,434	9,465	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole Carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	943	29	2	1,580	1,833	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	24.8%	48.3%	2.4%	7.3%	19.3%	-
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	50	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.52%	-
Cysticercus						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	16	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	16	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of cattle affected	0.42%	-	-	-	-	-

WATER SAMPLING

114 bacteriological and 7 chemical samples of town water were submitted for examination. All the samples were found to be satisfactory. There were two complaints of taste, but no reasons could be found for these.

Physical Characters	Colourless pH.7.7

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per million)

Solids in Solution (dried at 180°)	...	395
Solids in Solution after ignition	...	270
Chlorine Present as Chloride	...	40
Hardness Non-Carbonate	...	86
Hardness Carbonate	...	160
Hardness Total	...	246
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	0.02
Nitrate Nitrogen	...	11.5
Nitrite Nitrogen	...	Trace
Permanganate Value (4 hours at 27°)	...	0.24
Toxic Metals	...	None detected
Total Residual Chlorine	...	0.01
Number of colonies developing upon agar		
(a) In 2 days @ 37°C	...	7 per one ml
(b) In 3 days @ 22°C	...	10 per one ml
Probable number of coliform bacilli	...	Nil per 100 ml
Probable number of faecal coli	...	Nil per 100 ml

Supplies were satisfactory both as regards quantity and quality. The water is not liable to plumbo solvency, and fluoridation does not take place. The latter is due to the fact that several local authorities receive water from the North West Worcestershire Water Board.

SWIMMING BATHS

The Council's swimming baths comprise one covered and one outdoor pool, which are interconnected.

The pools measurements are:-

Indoor Pool: 25 yds x 10 yds. with a depth of 6 ft. to 3 ft. 6 ins.
Outdoor Pool: 33⅓ yds. x 10 yds with a depth of 10 ft. to 3 ft. 6 ins.

both baths being heated.

The source of water is a private well, with facilities for chlorination (if required) in the rising main to a storage tank. The water is treated by filtration and chlorination, with a 4 hour changeover in the indoor pool and a 6 hour changeover in the outdoor pool.

During the year 99 samples (64 bacteriological and 35 chemical) were submitted for examination.

At peak periods there is a tendency for a build up of organic impurities in the covered bath, but these are quickly cleared whenever detected.

During the year, new apparatus was obtained for the routine checking of chlorine and pH values.

Stourbridge and Dudley Hospital Group

During the year there was co-operation over the sampling of water from softeners and sterilisers. Samples were checked for softness, sterility and toxic metals.

Problems in the industrial field were again confined to the specialised furnaces - cupolas, enamelling furnaces and brick kilns. Complaints were also received regarding aluminium smelting, vertical boilers (one of which operates solely on wood offcuts) steam from gas making, but these were relatively simple, and as such were promptly remedied.

Problems still arise from a particular cupola, although work is proceeding on their solution. The fact that the cupola is a comparatively cheap, crude furnace, whilst the apparatus required to cure the problem is both expensive and sophisticated prevents a ready acceptance of the solution.

At the end of the year the enamelling furnace was in process of conversion from coal to a combination of gas and electricity.

The brick kilns are a never ending source of complaint, being situated on the edge of an area of modern housing which is smoke controlled. There are frequent discussions with H.M. Alkali Inspector, who is responsible for the kilns.

Section 10 - Heights of Chimneys

During the year a second edition of the memorandum on heights of chimneys was issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. This affected advice given on chimney heights, particularly where small furnaces were involved.

There were no cases where agreement was not reached.

Section 3 - Notification of Furnace Installations

A number of notifications were received. In each case the potential effect of sulphur dioxide and other emissions was assessed and where necessary advice was given or reassurances sought on performance.

Section 12 - Smoke Control Orders

Smoke Control Orders 23 and 24 came into operation on the 1st October, 1967.

Two further areas - numbers 26 and 27 - were declared:-

Area No: 26 (Hodge Hill Area) contains 118 acres, 1196 dwellings, with further houses in course of erection.

Area No: 27 (Off Hagley Road) contains 0.5 acres and covers a small area being currently developed adjoining Area number 7.

Number of Smoke Control Areas in operation or declared at 31st December, 1967	... 27
No. of dwellings	... 6288
No. of acres	... 1396.5

The number of dwellings is increasing steadily with new housing development on sites in existing smoke control areas.

The enforcement of the provisions of the Act in smoke control areas has been informal so far. The few offenders have been warned and often advised but it may become necessary in future to institute proceedings, in fairness to those who comply with the law and desire clean air.

There were a number of complaints about garden bonfires in smoke control areas which could have been avoided by exercising common sense and thoughtfulness. Circulars were issued in individual areas, and solicitors dealing with sales of houses have been asked to notify purchasers moving into houses in smoke control areas.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Clinic - Orchard Lane, Lye

	Smoke Filter Micrograms/ Cubic Metre		Sulphur Volumetric Analysis SO_2 Micrograms/ Cubic Metre		Ins. Rain	Deposit Gauge Tons per square mile		
	Highest	Average	Highest	Average		Total Undissolved Matter	Total Dissolved Matter	Total Solids
Jan.	188	77	347	133	1.87	5.20	4.84	10.04
Feb.	189	61	370	122	* No	records due	to vandalism	
March	60	23	115	55	2.05	9.51	4.70	14.21
April	130	51	222	136	1.06	8.08	7.85	15.93
May	117	30	336	186	5.41	17.83	8.28	26.11
June	61	18	193	71	0.60	15.36	4.07	19.43
July	28	14	151	64	1.53	8.04	4.44	12.48
August	57	21	172	67	2.44	6.19	4.64	10.83
Sept.	87	41	217	94	3.50	4.34	4.50	8.84
Oct.	70	39	120	66	4.70	3.38	7.85	11.23
Nov.	409	99	428	130	1.56	5.43	5.45	10.88
Dec.	596	106	596	138	1.54	5.50	6.66	12.16

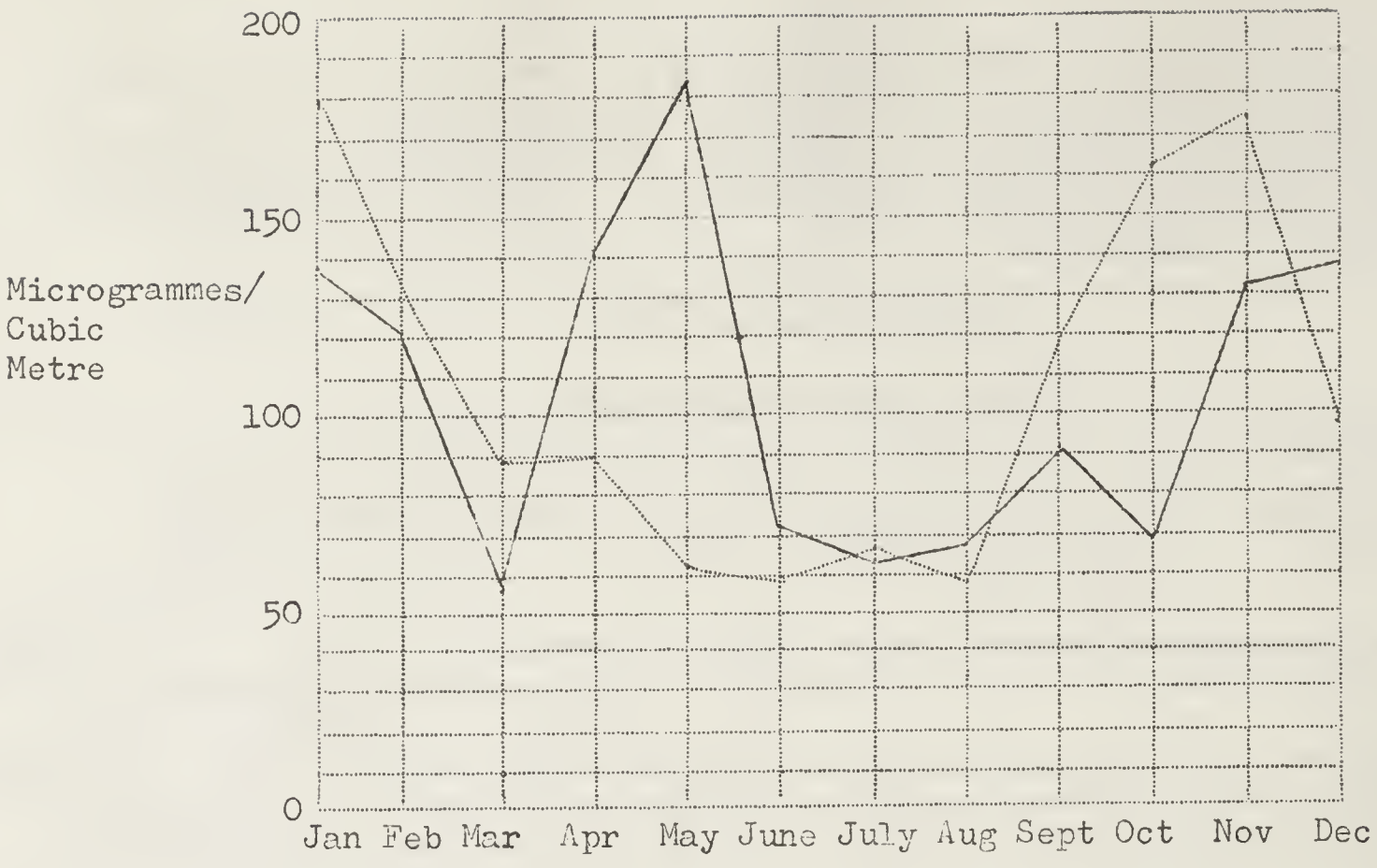
Noise Abatement Act 1960

The department now shares the use of a noise level meter with three other local authorities - a joint venture to reduce the costs, which is operating very satisfactorily. Two public health inspectors attended a course on noise control held at the University of Aston in Birmingham.

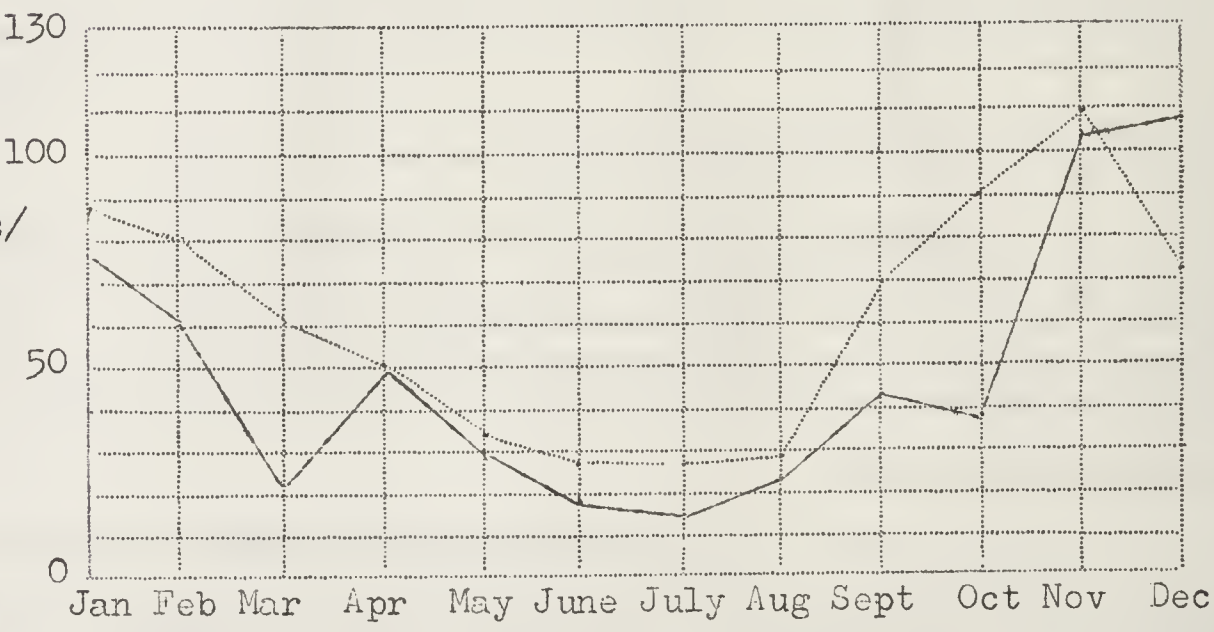
Posters on noise control are exhibited in various parts of the town.

Complaints received during the year included noise from gas making plant, road breaking, foundries, central heating plant, panel beating, light engineering, milk bottles (depot), washeteria, steel stockholders, car sales, car repairs, holloware manufacturing and open cast mining.

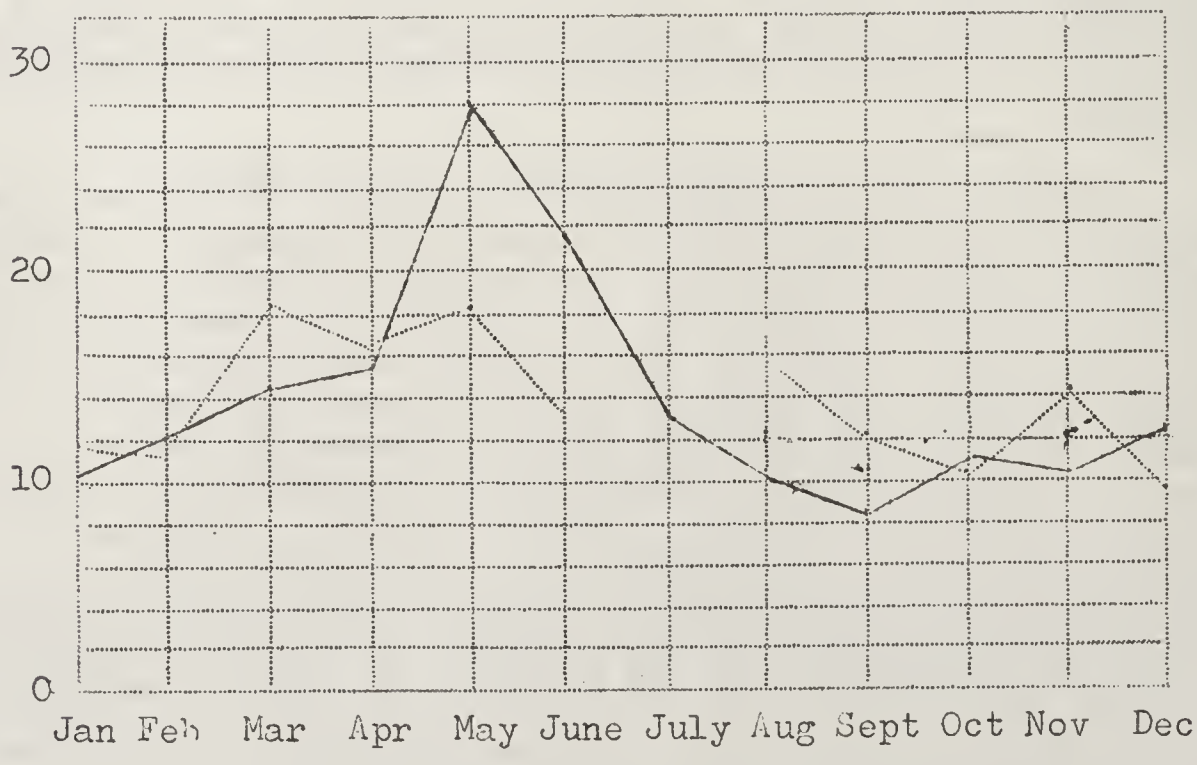
Many of these complaints were settled by informal discussions. In the case of the road breaking equipment an approach was made to contractors, nationalised bodies etc. suggesting the use of silencing equipment and this was generally successful. The most difficult case was that of gas making, where the West Midlands Gas Board went to great lengths to isolate noise sources and either mask or eliminate the offenders. At the end of the year noise consultants were still working on isolated machinery and the board were co-operating by restricting production to day time working as far as possible. British Standard 4142:1967 was found to be a useful guide, but in certain cases its standard and that of complainants differed radically, particularly where new noises were involved. It was necessary to take readings at all hours of the day and night to obtain an exact picture of complaints, but having done so it was found that the majority of complaints were genuine. Complaints and expense could be avoided by thought at the design stage of buildings and prior to installing noisy equipment.



Volumetric Analysis - Sulphur Dioxide
Average daily reading/month



Smoke filter - Average daily reading/month



Deposit gauge - Total Solids/month

(Dotted lines show 1966 results)

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PEST ACT 1949

RATS AND MICE

432 complaints were received during the year. In addition there were tests of sewers and routine surveys of tips, allotments, canal and river banks and other open spaces.

A summary of the work carried out by the Rodent Officer is set out below.

Type of Property	No. of Inspections	No. of Premises Infested	Treatment		No. of Visits Entailed	Infested by	
			Initial	Secondary		Rats	Mice
Local Authority	70	37	37	13	210	22	15
Dwellings	515	270	270	30	1560	215	55
Business and Industrial Premises	130	41	41	7	390	27	14
	715	348	348	50	2160	264	84

Test baitings of the sewers revealed one small infestation in the Wollescote area, which was successfully treated.

An estimated total of 1,321 rats and 520 mice were destroyed during the year.

VERMIN INFESTATION

The following treatments were carried out against vermin:-

Bugs	10
Fleas	6
Cockroaches	10
Wasps	90
Ants	2

In addition advice was given for the treatment of ants.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT 1928

106 licences were issued as follows:-

93 to store Petroleum Spirit only
3 to store Petroleum Spirit and Cellulose
1 to store Petroleum Spirit and Carbide of Calcium
2 to store Cellulose only
7 to store Petroleum Mixtures

These licences authorised the storage of 272,782 gallons of Petroleum Spirit, 112 lbs. of Carbide of Calcium, 216 gallons of Cellulose, and 305,147 gallons of Petroleum Mixture.

Petroleum(Consolidation Act)1928 cont .....

Licence fees amount to £80. 19. 3.

This amount is less than previous year due to rationalising, which meant issuing a number of licences for periods of less than 12 months, so that all licences now expire on the 31st December.

Tests of tanks were as follows:-

No. of tanks tested	No. which were satisfactory	No. failed	No. discontinued (other than those failing test)
25	17	8	3

Those tanks which failed the test were made safe by filling with weak concrete under supervision, or if removed were de-gassed by specialist firms before being taken from the ground.

Throughout the year there has been co-operation with the Fire Prevention Officer of the Worcestershire City and County Fire Brigade, and with the local officer.

Other Licences

Pet Animals Act 1951	-	3
Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963	-	1
Riding Establishment Act 1964	-	1
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951	-	1

ITINERANT CARAVANS

This was less of a problem than in the previous year, with only three groups of caravans parking in the Borough. Unfortunately the only authorities dealing with this problem as urgent are those which suffer from the periodic descent of these nomads, and in many cases the nature of their areas is against the establishment of sites, whether large or small. Proposed legislation may help, but in the meantime this recurring problem persists, and dealing with the itinerants becomes more difficult.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

331 visits, which included 268 general inspections, were made to registered premises during the year. Every newly registered premises received a general inspection and 212 premises were re-visited checking previous contraventions.

As a result of the co-ordination of inspections, food shops are now inspected under all appropriate Acts at the same time. The number of visits shown above represent visits made exclusively under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.

Six accidents were reported and investigated, but only one case was due to a contravention of the Act, and alterations being carried were a contributory factor in this instance.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

TABLE A - REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	8	187	32
Retail Shops	17	434	189
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	28	6
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	97	40
Fuel storage depots	-	1	1
TOTALS	26	747	268

TABLE B - NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS (INCLUDING GENERAL INSPECTIONS) TO REGISTERED PREMISES

331

TABLE C - ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

Class of Premises	Number of persons employed
Offices	1176
Retail Shops	1523
Wholesale departments, warehouses	217
Catering establishments open to the public	395
Canteens	9
Fuel storage depots	4
TOTAL	3324
TOTAL - MALES	1164
TOTAL - FEMALES	2160

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of: Inspections (3)	Number of: Written Notices (4)	Number of: Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	29	8	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	267	60	7	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	296	68	7	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred: To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred: By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) Overcrowding (S.2) Unreasonable temperature (S.3) Inadequate ventilation (S.4) Ineffective drainage of floors (6) Sanitary Conveniences (a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or defective (c) not separate for sexes Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork	7	7		1	-
TOTALS	7	7		1	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply list	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing(Making apparel) etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	2	-	-	-	-	-